

PARIS PROTEST
LIKELY TO GET
WILSON RELAY

Jusserand Transmits "Representations" to State Department Here.

INQUIRY IS "FRIENDLY"

References to Militaristic Policy Controlling France Cause of Incident.

President Wilson is considering whether he will rely to the "representations" made by the French government because of his charge that the militaristic party was in control of France.

The French government's representations, transmitted to the State Department by Ambassador J. J. Jusserand, on explicit instructions from the French foreign office, are more in the nature of a "friendly inquiry"—that is to say, they are put forth more in "sorrow than in anger"—yet it is believed here that the French government is extremely anxious to have a complete explanation of just what the President meant.

The displeasure of the French government is over certain portions of the President's letter to Senator Hitchcock on the treaty situation.

Can Choose Channel.

If the President should care to reply to the French representations, however, he would probably make his remarks the subject of a communication direct to the foreign office, although no hard nor fast rule exists for a matter of this nature.

It will be recalled that, during the progress of the Peace Conference, the President appeared, over the heads of officials of the Italian government, direct to the Italian people, and stirred up intense resentment as a result.

Italy, at that time, though, did not make any official representations or submit a request for an explanation to the State Department, nor did the President make any explanation of the reason that actuated his appeal.

White House Informed.

State Department officials yesterday would not talk about the situation, but it became known that the substance of the French representations were transmitted to the White House.

There have been times in the past when foreign governments have resented statements by men in public life in the United States, but no one could recall an instance where the remarks of the Chief Executive of the United States caused displeasure sufficient to warrant "representations."

So-called "friendly inquiries" to determine the meanings of statements have many times been instituted between European countries, though, and seldom, if ever, has the United States been the subject of such an inquiry.

FRENCH DIPLOMATS
SHRUG AT WILSON

(Washington Herald-Public Ledger Service. Special Cable Dispatch.) Paris, March 12.—While the press of Paris is foaming with rage against President Wilson, French diplomats merely shrug their shoulders and say:

"It makes no matter. In a year's time there will be no Wilson at the White House. His policy likewise will be missing."

On inquiry at the French foreign office your correspondent could get no official declaration on the subject, but unofficially it was said that the views of President Wilson, as expressions of his country's policy, become less important as the days go by. It is to the sound common sense of the American people that the French are looking.

American business men now in Paris view Mr. Wilson's latest outburst as particularly inopportune and unfortunate at a moment when trade relations between the two countries had begun to swing back to their true normalcy, and the economic relationship, especially, had begun to assume proportions favorable to both countries.

American business people realize that militaristic France and what should be deemed a militaristic America are two entirely different things. France has a hostile people still on her frontier. This fact has been recently emphasized by acts of violence toward her representatives by the Germans.

The possibility of a junker as president, in Hindenburg, is hardly likely to induce France to throw out completely advice of her military chiefs. Naturally their voice is bound to be heard to some extent in her councils, for France, until she completely recovers and obtains from America and Britain the guarantees which she has asked against future attack by her old enemy, will be bound to think in terms of which might appear, militaristic to America, protected as she is by the waters of the Pacific and Atlantic.

Americans in France today do not share President Wilson's view and many living in Paris have hastened to assure the Quai d'Orsay that Mr. Wilson has been obviously misinformed. Such assurances have undoubtedly been made, especially which, if one were to read the Paris press alone, one would have thought to be very acute indeed.

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She's First Woman
Customs Collector

Mrs. ESTELLE V. COLLIER.
Chairman of Utah Democratic Women's State Committee, who has been appointed collector of customs at Salt Lake City, and is the first woman to hold such a position.

CHEAPER SHOES
PROMISED
BY FIGGRetail Dealers in District
Agree to Smaller Margin of Profit.

"The price of shoes in the District is to be cut."

This announcement was made by Howard E. Figg, special Assistant Attorney General, in charge of the government campaign to reduce prices, last night, following a meeting with Washington retail shoe dealers. The statement follows, in part:

"Through the unanimous adoption of a scale of prices, presented to the fair price advisory board of the District by retail dealers, it is evident that retail shoe dealers henceforth will enjoy a smaller margin of profit."

Ruling Effective at Once.

The new ruling will be effective from this date until the board or the retail dealers reopen the question as a result of changed conditions.

"Following is the scale of maximum profits on shoes in the District:

"All men's and women's shoes, retailing up to \$12, cannot be sold at a maximum profit of over 35 per cent on the retail price.

All men's and women's shoes, retailing at more than \$12, cannot be sold at a maximum profit of over 30 per cent.

All Prices to Be Marked.

"All infants' and children's shoes, boys' shoes up to size 5½ and girls' shoes up to misses' size 2, can be sold at a maximum profit not to exceed 31 per cent on the retail price.

The selling price of all shoes will be marked in plain figures.

This scale is the same as that originally presented to the board by the Retail Shoe Dealers' Association of Washington, with the exception of the third item. The figure originally allowed a maximum profit not to exceed 33½ per cent.

In the board's investigation it developed the fact that 80 per cent of all shoes sold in the District sell for \$12 or less."

Herbert Quick, former member of the Farm Loan Board, left Washington en route to Vladivostok last night. He heads a new Red Cross mission to Siberia. The other commissioners are Dr. Rudolph B. Teusler, Charles B. Barge and W. Cooke Lewis. Mr. Teusler is in charge of present Red Cross activities in Siberia. Mr. Barge has been identified with Red Cross work in France and Mr. Lewis is controller of the American Red Cross.

The commission will superintend the closing of Red Cross operations in Siberia. American supplies will be sold or given to various Russian agencies for distribution. There probably are \$2,000,000 or \$3,000,000 worth of Red Cross property in Siberia.

Dramatic Story in Service.

The American Red Cross relief campaign in Russia is a dramatic story of humanitarian service. At one time, Red Cross operations extended over a stretch of 5,000 miles from Vladivostok to the Ural Mountains. The work, however, has been considerably curtailed since the withdrawal of the American troops early this year. The Siberian activities of the Red Cross began in the summer of 1918.

Within less than a year fourteen hospitals were established and eighteen relief trains despatched

ADVISED HINT
AT POLISH ROUT
BY BOLSHEVIKIGermans Learn Reds Are
Arming Sympathizers
Behind Front.

GRAVE MENACE SEEN

Unofficial Information to
Washington Indicates
Perilous Situation.(Public Ledger Service, Special
Cable Dispatch.)
By S. B. CONGER

Berlin, March 12.—Advices received here lately give a serious aspect to the Bolshevik campaign against Poland, which German opinion hitherto has been inclined to consider largely a Polish phantasy.

It is reported that the Bolsheviks have succeeded in smuggling a great many rifles into Poland and have distributed them among their sympathizers, endeavoring to arrange an outbreak in the rear of the Polish army, if initial military successes are attained. Their military concentrations are formidable.

I would attach less weight to this information were it not for the earlier attitude of my informants, who pooh-poohed Polish reports of the Bolshevik menace.

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Alarming News Received.

Unofficial reports reaching Washington indicate that the Polish army may have suffered a serious reverse during the past week at the hands of the Russian Bolsheviks. Pierce fighting has been reported from the region of the Pripiet marshes, where the Reds, imitating the tactics of Hindenburg, have been attempting to outflank the Poles. Their success would mean a disastrous Polish retreat through this swampy territory and might be a decisive turning point in the war.

The line held by the Polish units runs through the Pripiet marshes south of Bobruisk. The Poles have been under attack at two points. Heavy Red detachments have been advancing both on the north and south of the marshes. Military circles here have regarded the Polish battle plan with much misgiving, owing to the possibility of a Polish retreat. Gen. Foch is said to be responsible for this phase of Poland's military strategy.

Asked to Withdraw.

The Polish battle line is outside the territory assigned to Poland by the treaty of Versailles. A few weeks ago England and Italy diplomatically advised Poland to withdraw her troops within these "official" borders.

The Polish forces are said to be fairly well equipped and provisioned, but considerably handicapped by an epidemic of typhoid. Civilian conditions behind the lines, however, continue to be very grave, and Polish Socialists are doing their best to reap advantages from the situation.

Meanwhile, the peace pourparlers between the Bolsheviks and the Poles are said to have come to a sudden standstill.

W. R. & E. LOSES FIGHT
TO LOWER VALUATION

Justice Gould, in the District Supreme Court, yesterday signed the decree dismissing the injunction suit of the Potomac Electric Power Company against the Public Utilities Commission.

The decree also dismisses the cross-bill filed by the Washington Railway and Electric Company, against the Commission, objecting to the valuation figures placed on the properties of the two concerns.

Increased Salaries Founded
On Merits of Individual Urged
By Reclassification Board

A thirty-day vacation, a seven-hour day, ten days a year sick leave and a general advance in the scale of salaries paid the 107,000 government employees in Washington are the principal recommendations of the Joint Congressional Commission for the Reclassification of Salaries of Government Employees, submitted to Congress yesterday.

Former Representative Edward Keating, secretary of the commission, said it had been inaccurately stated that increased cost to the government would be about \$33,000,000 a year. The increase in cost he estimates at from \$8,000,000 to \$9,000,000 a year.

"Huge Task" Completed.

"We have completed a huge task," said Mr. Keating. "It represents more than a year of constant work, with the best advice obtainable. We believe that the result will prove acceptable to the workers and public alike."

Accompanying the bill is the draft of a measure intended to enforce the recommendations of the commission. The bill provides, among other things, that the Civil Service Commission shall, as soon as possible, announce the class in which each employee will be placed under reclassification.

The bill recommended by the commission declares the principle of "equal work, equal pay" shall be recognized "irrespective of the sex of the worker." In determining the rate of compensation to be allowed each employee under the new system, much latitude is allowed the various department heads.

Women on Advisory Body.

Another feature of the bill is a recommendation for a "Civil Service Advisory Council," of twelve members, six of whom are appointed by the President from employees of and above the rank of division chief. One of these shall be a woman. Two of the remaining six are to be elected by the manual employees, two by the clerical employees, and two by the scientific and technical employees. Each member to serve for a term of three years.

Continued on page eleven.

THIEVES MAKE
\$410,000 HAULSafe Blowers Escape With
Bonds Stolen from Philadelphia Firms.

Philadelphia, March 12.—Safe blowers opened two safes on the seventh and eighth floors of the Weightman building today and secured \$410,000 worth of bonds, of which \$118,000 are negotiable.

Bonds valued at \$300,000 were stolen from the Ocean County Electric Company and \$110,000 in bonds were taken from the safe of the Hydro-Electric Finance Corporation.

The bandits left no clue.

HYLAN CALLS
RENT COUNCILNew York Mayor Will Enlist
Business Men to Solve
Housing Problem.

(By Herald Leased Wire.) New York, March 12.—Mayor Hylan today decided to call in conference on Monday all the leading real estate financiers, builders, contractors, building material men and representatives of the various labor organizations and ask them in the name of common humanity to come to some agreement that will solve the rent profiteering evil. New York City needs 40,000 new apartments every year. The shortage is several times that number. The war and the desertion of the farms were the two big factors. Soldiers from rural districts who had never seen Fifth avenue or Broadway until the war shunted them there, stayed, vowing they would never look upon the green fields again.

TWO YANKS KILLED
IN BEDOUIN ATTACK

Two Americans belonging to a Jewish battalion were killed in a Bedouin attack on the Jewish colony of Matula, in Northern Galilee, Palestine, on March 1, the State Department was advised yesterday. Their names were reported to be Tiker and Sharf.

In all four men and three women were killed in the attack, while five persons were wounded.

Continued on page eleven.

SLAIN WOMAN
LIES 20 HOURS
IN D. C. WOODSBody of Mrs. Gertrude H.
Mann Found Near Cleveland Park.ROCK CRUSHED SKULL
Search for Slayer of Music
Teacher Joined by Many
Residents.

The body of Mrs. Gertrude Harrison Mann, 46 years old, of 1822 Ontario place, was discovered at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon, the skull crushed, in a little patch of woods between Porter and Rodman streets, two blocks west of Connecticut avenue. She had been beaten to death with a heavy rock, presumably by a highwayman, at least twenty hours before.

Every available agency of the Police Department immediately was concentrated on tracing the man guilty of the murder, the most brutal recorded in several years at headquarters.

Man-Hunt Made General.

A score of central office detectives have dropped all other investigations to pursue an unremitting man-hunt. Enraged householders of the placid and prosperous Cleveland Park section accompanied the heavily-armed squads, while women and children ventured from their homes in trepidation.

Through one of the few strips of woodland surviving the progress of home construction, Mrs. Mann was walking toward Ontario road late Thursday, after making the rounds of her piano pupils in Cleveland Park. While home-comers trod the nearby pavements and automobiles sped along the nearby boulevard, she was slain after a struggle in which small branches were torn from the trees and the thawing ground was much trampled.

Trail Deeply Marked.

From that spot lead away the footprints of a big man, striding with a heavy tread. A rifled handgun, contemptuously tossed, lay fifty feet from the scene of the crime.

Through the night and in a heavy storm the body of Mrs. Mann lay undiscovered, while Mrs. J. Edgar Spiker, whose home also was that of the slain woman, wondered at her absence, but gave no alarm.

At 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon, at Alex. Preece, a riding master of 2602 Massachusetts avenue, with three girls on horseback, looked down as his animal shied off at a sight which he quickly withdrew his charges.

The wheels of investigation started nearly twenty-four hours later when Preece reported at No. 28 Engine House, 4545 street near Wisconsin avenue, but the night brought forth no further clues than the afternoon afforded.

These consist of a blood-stained rock which could have been wielded only by a powerful man, line footprints leading from the place of crime, the hand-bag torn from Mrs. Mann's wrist, where the straps still twined, and plain handkerchief with bloody fingerprints, hopelessly smeared.

Quest For Clues Futile.

Washing high-power electric torches through the darkness, the police spread wide through the woods farther west near Wisconsin avenue, but the night brought forth no further clues than the afternoon afforded.

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